Dakota State University
Madison, South Dakota

In 1984, legislative, university and community leaders, spurred on by the governor, developed a new mission for Dakota State University. The new mission completely revamped DSU from a small liberal arts teachers' college into an advanced university that integrates computer science and information systems technology across all academic offerings.

Today, Dakota State University's mission offers its students a unique learning experience: a solid education incorporating state-of-the-art computer technology, and grounded in the tenets of a traditional university education. There are few, if any, institutions in the United States that have implemented this unique advanced approach to infusing computer science and information systems across the entire curriculum.

This advanced approach to integrating computer technology is manifested in such degree programs as:

> Computer Science
> Information Systems
> Scientific Forensic Technology
> Teacher Education
> Computer Education
> Electronic Commerce
> Web Development/Multimedia
> Health Information Administration
> Biology for Information Systems
> Mathematics for Information Systems
> English for Information Systems

Study at DSU is challenging and filled with opportunity. At DSU the undergraduate student might perform research, do programming and systems analysis for a Fortune 500 company, integrate computers into an elementary school curriculum or create World Wide Web pages. The limits are set by the student and the support is provided by DSU's excellent faculty, institutes and centers.

DSU has also been a pioneer in Distance Education, offering courses over the internet since 1989. The newly renovated Technology Classroom Building with state of the art computer labs, along with the DDN Studio and the Governor's Electronic Classroom, have provided many opportunities for DSU students to take courses via the internet. The Technology Classroom Building is equipped with an iris scan recognition security system, the first installed in the state of South Dakota. DSU is researching this and other types of biometrics as part of an initiative to provide better security to not just infrastructure but information as well.

Dakota State University offers three masters programs. The Master of Science in Information Systems is the first of its kind in public higher education in South Dakota. DSU also offers a Master of Science in Educational Technology and a Master of Science in Information Assurance and Computer Security.

DSU graduates are in high demand…

Dakota State University regularly places 100 percent of its graduates in computer science, information systems and several other degree programs like English for information systems and respiratory care.

Salaries in the information systems degree programs are extremely competitive and in some cases greatly exceed regional averages. Corporations such as Gateway, Schwan's, Citibank, Federated Insurance and Mutual of Omaha interview, recruit and hire Dakota State University graduates. Recruiters know they will find more than well-trained professionals with inquisitive minds - they count on DSU graduates having real world skills and above average goals.

Such success is supported through an aggressive placement and internship program. Dakota State graduates enjoy an impressive 92% career placement rate in their field of study. Over eighty percent of DSU graduates have had at least one paraprofessional-internship field experience prior to graduation. An impressive 50 percent of these graduates have been offered a permanent position by their internship employers. In addition, graduates who have taken internships earn a 25 percent higher starting salary in their first post-college job.

An excellent learning environment . . .

The Dakota State University campus is located in Madison, South Dakota; only 50 miles north of the state's largest and fastest growing economic development center, the city of Sioux Falls. Dakota State, through USDSU at Sioux Falls, also delivers such degrees as Computer Science, E-Commerce, Computer Information Systems, Multimedia/ Web Development, M.S. Information Systems and M.S. Computer Education Technology, along with several associates, minors, and certificates.

The computer environment is unequaled in the region. DSU began a Wireless Mobile Computing Initiative in the fall of 2004. The initiative put a tablet/notebook wireless computing device in the hands of all full time freshmen and sophomores. DSU is the only campus in the state of South Dakota to implement such a project and one of the first in the United States to utilize the tablet computing system. The DSU campus is wireless, further enhancing the student's access to information.

An excellent community environment . . .

The picturesque campus is located on 22 acres situated near two glacial lakes that provide year-round recreation. In the spring and summer, water skiing, sailing and fishing dominate the on-the-water activities. Sun bathing, softball and volleyball keep the beaches active.

On campus activities include intercollegiate and intramural athletics for men and women, music, art and drama. In 2000, Dakota State, in conjunction with the City of Madison, opened the doors to an $8-million Community Center, complete

with indoor pool, walk/jog track, weight room, gyms, racquetball courts, and more. The DSU campus is also home to the Smith-Zimmermann Museum and the Dakota Prairie Playhouse, a theater complex that each summer hosts South Dakota's own professional repertory theater company.

Nationally recognized and accredited . . .

Dakota State's mission to integrate technology across its curriculum has resulted in the school receiving national recognition. DSU was named a National Center for Excellence in Information Assurance Education by the National Security Agency in 2004. *U.S.News and World Report* named the university the #2 Comprehensive Public College in the Midwest in 2004.

Dakota State is accredited by the following agencies:

- Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA)
- Division of Education of the South Dakota Department of Education and Cultural Affairs
- Council on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
- Council on Accreditation of the American Health Information Management Association
- Joint Review Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education of the American Medical Association
- National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
- Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs
- National Security Agency (NSA) as a Center of Excellence in Information Assurance Education.

The path to the future starts here…

Dakota State is just the first step in a journey of lifelong learning for its graduates. When they leave campus, DSU alumni will have:

- An unsurpassed knowledge of information technology
- Exceptional creative and problem solving skills
- A passion for learning
- And a pride in their alma mater

Dakota State University's Web Site is www.dsu.edu